

# State of Utah

# Department of Natural Resources

MICHAEL R. STYLER Executive Director

Division of Oil, Gas & Mining

JOHN R. BAZA Division Director JON M. HUNTSMAN, JR.

GARY R. HERBERT Lieutenant Governor

July 5, 2006

CERTIFIED RETURN RECEIPT 7004 2510 0004 1824 7692

Jerome Bown Bown Stone Products, Inc. 93 West 300 South P.O. Box 27 Manti, Utah 84642

Subject: <u>Proposed Assessment for Cessation Order MC-2006-01-03, Bown Stone</u> <u>Products, Inc., Unpermitted Quarry, S/039/019, Sanpete County, Utah</u>

Dear Mr. Bown:

The undersigned has been appointed by the Division of Oil, Gas & Mining as the Assessment Officer for assessing penalties under R647-7.

Enclosed is the proposed civil penalty assessment for the above referenced cessation order. The cessation order was issued by Division Inspector, Lynn Kunzler, on June 6, 2006. Rule R647-7-103 et. seq. has been utilized to formulate the proposed penalty for the violation as follows:

• MC-2006-01-03- Violation 1 of 1 \$374

The enclosed worksheet specifically outlines how the violation was assessed.

By these rules, any written information which was submitted by you or your agent within fifteen (15) days of receipt of this Cessation Order has been considered in determining the facts surrounding the violation and the amount of penalty.

Jerome Bown S/039/019 July 5, 2006 Page 2 of 6

Under R647-7-106, there are two informal appeal options available to you:

- 1. If you wish to informally appeal the <u>fact of the Cessation Order</u>, you should file a written request for an Informal Conference within thirty (30) days of receipt of this letter. This conference will be conducted by the Division Director, Associate Director or appointed Conference Officer. This Informal Conference is distinct from the Assessment Conference regarding the proposed penalty.
- 2. If you wish to review the proposed penalty assessment, you should file a written request for an Assessment Conference within thirty (30) days of receipt of this letter. If you are also requesting a review of the fact of violation, as noted in paragraph one, the assessment conference will be scheduled immediately following that review.

If a timely request for review is not made, the fact of the cessation order will stand, the proposed penalty(ies) will become final, and the penalty(ies) will be due and payable within thirty (30) days of the final assessment. Please remit payment to the Division, mail c/o Vickie Southwick.

Sincerely,

Daron R. Haddock Assessment Officer

drh/vs

Enclosure: Worksheets

c: Vickie Southwick, Exec. Sec. Vicki Bailey, Accounting

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# WORKSHEET FOR ASSESSMENT OF PENALTIES DIVISION OF OIL, GAS & MINING Minerals Regulatory Program

COI	MPANY	/ MIN	E Bown Stone Pro	ducts, Inc./ Unpermitted Site	PERMIT <u>S0390019</u>			
NO	V / CO #	# _MC	C-2006-01-03	_	VIOLATION <u>1</u> of <u>1</u>			
ASS	SESSME	ENT DA	ATEJuly 5, 20	06				
ASS	SESSME	ENT OF	FICER <u>Daron R.</u>	Haddock				
I.	HIS	TORY	(Max. 25 pts.) (R6	47-7-103.2.11)				
	A.	A. Are there previous violations, which are not pending or vacated, which fall within three (3) years of today's date?						
	PRE	VIOUS	VIOLATIONS	EFFECTIVE DATE	POINTS (1pt for NOV 5pts for CO)			
		none			<u> </u>			
II.	SER	IOUSN	(ESS (Max 45pts)		HISTORY POINTS 0			
	NOT	E:	For assignment of points in Parts II and III, the following apply:					
1.		1.	Based on facts supplied by the inspector, the Assessment Officer will determine within each category where the violation falls.  Beginning at the mid-point of the category, the Assessment Officer will adjust the points up or down, utilizing the inspector's and operator's statements as guiding documents.					
	adjust the statements  Is this an EVENT							
			s an EVENT (A) or an points according t	(A) or Administrative (B) violation? <u>Event</u> ording to A or B)				
	A. <u>EVEN</u>		VT VIOLATION (Max 45 pts.)					
		1.	What is the event	which the violated standard w	as designed to prevent?			

2. What is the probability of the occurrence of the event which a violated standard was designed to prevent?

<u>PROBABILITY</u>	<u>RANGE</u>
None	0
Unlikely	1-9
Likely	10-19
Occurred	20

# ASSIGN PROBABILITY OF OCCURRENCE POINTS 20

#### PROVIDE AN EXPLANATION OF POINTS:

\*\*\* An Operator is required to obtain a permit from the Division of Oil Gas and Mining prior to conducting mining operations. The inspection of this site found areas of mining related disturbance, which are not part of a current mining permit. The Operator assumed that he was operating on a permitted area and had reclaimed some of the area so he could continue mining even though he was expanding beyond the 5- acre limit. He had not received approval to mine in the area where he was mining. Disturbance has actually occurred.

3. What is the extent of actual or potential damage?

RANGE 0-25

In assigning points, consider the duration and extent of said damage or impact, in terms of area and impact on the public or environment.

### PROVIDE AN EXPLANATION OF POINTS:

\*\*\* The inspector stated that the operator has disturbed a few acres of land that had not been approved for disturbance. The damage was the loss of vegetation and soil resources from the area disturbed. Further discussion with the inspector revealed that the damage is probably temporary. While the soil and vegetation have been disturbed, the site could still be reclaimed. Damage is assessed in the lower 1/3 of the range.

- B. <u>ADMINISTRATIVE VIOLATIONS</u> (Max 25pts)
  - 1. Is this a POTENTIAL or ACTUAL hindrance to enforcement? \_

RANGE 0-25

Assign points based on the extent to which enforcement is actually or potentially hindered by the violation.

A	CCICN	HINDB	ANCE	<b>POINTS</b>	
<b>∕-</b> 1	1212 L			LOUILD	

#### PROVIDE AN EXPLANATION OF POINTS:

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#### TOTAL SERIOUSNESS POINTS (A or B) 28

#### III. DEGREE OF FAULT (Max 30 pts.) (R647-7-103.2.13)

A. Was this an inadvertent violation which was unavoidable by the exercise of reasonable care? IF SO--NO NEGLIGENCE; or, was this a failure of a permittee to prevent the occurrence of a violation due to indifference lack of diligence, or lack of reasonable care, the failure to abate any violation due to the same or was economic gain realized by the permittee? IF SO--GREATER DEGREE OF FAULT THAN NEGLIGENCE.

No Negligence 0
Negligence 1-15
Greater Degree of Fault 16-30

STATE DEGREE OF NEGLIGENCE Negligence

#### ASSIGN NEGLIGENCE POINTS 4

#### PROVIDE AN EXPLANATION OF POINTS:

\*\*\* The inspector indicated that the violation was the result of the Operator not understanding the DOGM regulations. The Operator had been working on another permittee's area and had reclaimed some areas, so he felt he was operating underneath the small mine limitation, however, no release of the reclaimed area had been granted and no approval for expansion had been issued. Approximately 3-4 acres of disturbance has occurred. This indicates indifference to the rules or misunderstanding of the rules. A prudent operator would understand the need to obtain approval prior to disturbing an area. The Operator was somewhat negligent in this regard, thus the assignment of points in the lower part of the negligence range.

# IV. GOOD FAITH (Max 20 pts.) (R467-7-103.2.14)

(Either A or B) (Does not apply to violations requiring no abatement measures)

A. Did the operator have onsite, the resources necessary to achieve compliance of the violated standard within the permit area?

IF SO--EASY ABATEMENT

Easy Abatement Situation

• Immediate Compliance -11 to -20\*
(Immediately following the issuance of the NOV)

Rapid Compliance -1 to -10
(Permittee used diligence to abate the violation)

Normal Compliance

(Operator complied within the abatement period required) (Operator complied with condition and/or terms of approved Mining and Reclamation Plan)

- \*Assign in upper of lower half of range depending on abatement occurring the 1st or 2nd half of abatement period.
- B. Did the permittee not have the resources at hand to achieve compliance, or does the situation require the submission of plans prior to physical activity to achieve compliance?

IF SO--DIFFICULT ABATEMENT

Difficult Abatement Situation

- Rapid Compliance -11 to -20\*
  (Permittee used diligence to abate the violation)
- Normal Compliance -1 to -10\*

  (Operator complied within the abatement period required)
- Extended Compliance 0

  (Permittee took minimal actions for abatement to stay within the limits of the NOV or the violated standard of the plan submitted for abatement was incomplete)

  (Permittee complied with conditions and/or terms of approved Mining and Reclamation Plan)

EASY OR DIFFICULT ABATEMENT? Difficult

ASSIGN GOOD FAITH POINTS \_-15

#### PROVIDE AN EXPLANATION OF POINTS:

\*\*\* The abatement required submission of plans, so this was considered to be a difficult abatement. June 16, 2006 was the deadline set for submitting both a Notice of Intent and a reclamation surety. The operator provided a SMO on June 12, 2006, which was well before the required deadline and an acceptable surety was provided on June 15, 2006 also before the required deadline. The Operator showed diligence in abating the violation, thus good faith points are awarded in the middle of the "rapid compliance" category.

## V. ASSESSMENT SUMMARY (R647-7-103.3)

NOTICE OF VIOLATION # <u>MC-06-01-03(1)</u>				
I.	TOTAL HISTORY POINTS	0		
II.	TOTAL SERIOUSNESS POINTS	28		
III.	TOTAL NEGLIGENCE POINTS	4		
IV.	TOTAL GOOD FAITH POINTS			
	TOTAL ASSESSED POINTS	<u>17</u>		
	TOTAL ASSESSED FINE	<u>\$ 374</u>		